

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

**APPARATUS AND METHOD OF IMPROVING NETWORK PERFORMANCE USING
VIRTUAL INTERFACES**

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A method, system and apparatus for improving network
performance of a multiprocessor system that has a limited
10 number of physical network interfaces by using virtual IP
addresses are provided. When a processor of the
multiprocessor system determines that it is processing
network data, it uses a virtual IP address to transmit the
data. The virtual IP address is associated with a buffer;
15 and thus the data is sent to the buffer. This allows the
processor to be free to process other data, network or
otherwise. The buffer, with the help of a controller, then
contends for the use of one of the limited physical network
interfaces to transmit the data.

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